

# Experiment Station Work

of A. & M. College, College Station, Texas

Edited by Publicity Department of A. & M. College.

IKE ASHBURN, EDITOR.

Questions relative to agriculture and livestock growing will be answered on this page. Kindly send all queries to Ike Ashburn, College Station, Texas. These queries will be referred to the staff experts maintained at the Agricultural and Mechanical College and the State Experiment station.

## BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS.

The following report with reference to boys' and girls' club work is made by T. H. Williamson, state agent in charge of this work at A. & M. College:

According to figures furnished by the office at Washington last year, Texas had 12,637 members enrolled in cotton, corn, milo maize and kaffir corn clubs, and 2,283 girls enrolled in the canning club work. This membership was secured through county agents, school teachers, various organizers, etc. At the June meeting, 1912, at Washington, it was decided to revise the membership in each state and determine, if possible, the number of real, active members engaged in the work. According to our revised list, we found only 1,880 boys out of the 12,637 that were active and had an interest in the work and that only 306 girls out of the 2,283 enrolled. According to this we realized that we had a very large enrollment consisting principally of inactive members which was the result of a loose system of organization. From letters received last year from a large number of club members and other people, it seems that many boys and girls were enrolled without their consent or knowledge of the fact. Some organizers were inclined, in order to have a reputation of having a large enrollment, sent in a large list of names collected from scholastic rolls, etc., without securing the consent of the members.

This year we deemed it advisable to confine our enrollment as much as possible to boys and girls that desired to be enrolled in the work for the benefit that they expected to derive from it, thereby eliminating a large per cent of inactive members who were not interested in the work and would never send in reports. Therefore each boy and girl enrolled this year was required to make application on a prepared form, giving their name and address and other points of information desired; all of these applications are on file in this office, from which I submit the following data:

Number of organized counties.....	13
Number of counties with members.....	49
Total number of members.....	1,932
Total number of orphans.....	86
Per cent of members who are orphans.....	4.4
Number whose parents are renters.....	537
Per cent whose parents are renters.....	27.8
Number whose parents are land owners.....	1,395
Per cent whose parents are land owners.....	72.2
Total number of members of poultry clubs.....	191
Total number of members in miscellaneous clubs.....	48
Total number of acres of tomatoes.....	216.93
Total number of acres of other garden crops.....	17.24
Total number of members whose parents are engaged in the indicated occupations.....	1,624
Farmers.....	13
Stock farmers.....	13
Doctors.....	9
Ministers.....	44
Merchants.....	6
Clinicians.....	10
Real Estate Agents.....	6
Government special agents.....	61
Laborers.....	17
Blacksmiths.....	16
Teachers.....	5
County officials.....	4
Bankers.....	10
Clerks.....	3
Postmasters.....	10
Mail carriers.....	3
Lawyers.....	42
Miscellaneous.....	42

Note 1—Miscellaneous occupations consist of hotel proprietors, bartenders, contractors, tanners, barbers, millers, liveries, salaried engineers, bookkeepers, tailors, housekeepers, saddlers and mail clerks.

Note 2—"Other garden crops" consist of beans, peas, cucumbers, watermelons, beets, flowers, celery, potatoes, cabbage, lettuce, radishes, turnips, etc.

Note 3—"Miscellaneous clubs" consist of sewing clubs, etc.

We endeavor to confine the organization of girls' clubs to those counties only where we could employ lady supervisors. The following is a list of counties where lady supervisors are employed and the number of members that they have organized:

Anderson.....	35	Comanche.....	320	Grimes.....	82
Archer.....	25	Cook.....	148	Marion.....	36
Bee.....	42	Denton.....	106	Millam.....	53
Brewer.....	54	El Paso.....	124	Wichita.....	152
Brown.....	187	Grayson.....	21	Wise.....	79
Calderwell.....	25	Greene.....	191	Orange.....	40
Cherokee.....	25	Grayson.....	21	Wise.....	79
Total number of members in organized counties.....	1,618				
Total number of members in unorganized counties.....	314				
Grand total.....	1,932				

The general average of enrollment from the eighteen counties organized is 89 members. It seems to me that 80 or 90 members is sufficient for any lady supervisor to enroll where she is only employed for two or three months. However, you will note that some ladies have far below this general average. In most cases perhaps this is due to local conditions. During the year of 1912 Texas had sixteen lady supervisors employed on a two-months' basis. This year Texas has eighteen supervisors. Four are employed on a two-months' basis, while fourteen are employed for a period of three months. In fourteen of the counties we secured funds from local aid for the work.

TEXAS FARM MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION.

Annual Address of J. F. Bradley of Memphis, Texas.

President Texas Farm Management Association was organized during the 1912 Farmers' Congress, with approximately 400 charter members.

The objects and purposes of the organization are that of investigation and propagation of business farming in Texas. This organization purposes to be the medium through which its membership, together with the agents of the State and National Departments and experts of the State and National Departments, may investigate and solve many of the perplexing farm management problems and business ways, have been solved in a satisfactory manner and disseminate the information to our own use and benefit, as well as disseminate it throughout the state, leading thereby to put farming on a better business basis in Texas.

We, as farmers, are aware of the fact that only a small per cent of us are so managing our farms as to produce sufficient revenue on them to pay wages for the labor expended, and interest on the investment, and the per cent is still smaller that can pay all of

this and pay a dividend, or, if you please, pay a salary to the manager; but not many of the farmers who manage their own farms had ever thought of earning a salary as farm manager, and the truth is there are but few Texas farmers who have really earned a salary as farm manager, or who have so managed their farms as to have made their farms earn a dividend.

A banking institution is considered successfully managed when it maintains its capital stock, sets aside a surplus and pays its stockholders a legitimate dividend, and, by the way, its manager receives the highest compensation of anyone connected with the institution. The successful mercantile and manufacturing enterprises maintain their capital stock and usually increase it, pay a dividend, and pay their manager in proportion to the gray matter he is able to contribute.

So the farmer, to successfully manage his farm, must maintain the fertility of the soil, must keep up or increase the value of his improvements, pay for the labor expended, pay interest on the investment, lay aside reasonable dividend as compensation for the gray matter he has expended.

To those of us who have aspirations to properly care for and educate our children and be of real service to humanity such a system of management would indeed be a boon to us, and we welcome the day when we can have this problem worked out on our own farms.

We, as farmers, may receive valuable help from our neighbors, from statistics and from the experts in this missionary movement, and surely we should avail ourselves of every advantage thus afforded us, but after all, success is largely dependent on our own efforts. We have had help to raise more and better cotton, more and better corn, more and better hogs, etc., and these are all good in their place, but farm management does not consist in the producing of more acres of any specific crop, nor does it consist in raising of greater numbers of any particular line of livestock or fowls.

Farm management consists, first, in the production of such crops as are adapted to the soil and climatic conditions of the particular farm, due consideration being given to rotation of the crops and the maintenance of soil fertility.

Second, in the raising of such livestock, fowls, etc., and in such numbers and proportions as the individual farm, its soil fertility, crop rotation and available pasture considered, will bring in the greatest net revenue.

Third, marketing: The amount and character of crops grown, as well as the number of livestock and fowls grown, must be governed somewhat by the average market value of the particular crop or animal produced, as well as the marketing facilities of the particular farm. The marketing of farm products is, indeed, a weighty problem, and not only is it of the utmost importance to the farmer, but the consumer is also interested.

It is a known fact that the shortest distance between two given points is a straight line, therefore, it is the purpose of this organization to encourage and promote a system of marketing by which the farmer, the producer, may sell direct to the consumer. Even in our own state we find that one section is a producer and another section is a consumer, and certainly it is desirable to inaugurate a system of marketing whereby our farmers, in so much as they are consumers, may purchase directly from the producer.

The Texas Farm Management Association purposes to foster and encourage such a system of marketing farm products, seeds, fruits, vegetables, livestock, etc.

Fourth, Farm Record: Perhaps the lack of an efficient system of keeping farm accounts has had very much to do with farm failures. I know of no business with so great an investment as the ordinary farmer owning and cultivating 100 acres of land, that would undertake to run his business without keeping a system of accounts. The business man finds it necessary to keep such a system of accounts as will enable him to know at the end of each year just what he has made or lost, and what particular lines have been profitable or unprofitable; so we, as farmers, to successfully manage our affairs, must incorporate a system of farm accounts that will enable us at the end of the year to know what our gain or loss has been, and to know what particular crops, animals, etc., have been profitable or unprofitable.

It is the intention of this association to assist in the formulation of such a system of accounts and records as will meet the needs of the ordinary farmer.

We believe that the Texas Farm Management Association has valuable work to do, and that better farm management will result in a more prosperous citizenry and happier farm homes, better educated farm boys and girls, thus enabling us to furnish to our neighboring towns and cities more and better farm products, livestock, fruits and vegetables, and last, but not least, more and better brains, for it is from the farm that the town, city, state and nation draw, and must continue to draw on for brains.

## HOG CHOLERA.

(By Dr. H. P. Marshall.)

One of the greatest handicaps to the hog industry has been hog cholera. Many a breeder, hog raiser, and feeder has been ruined financially by this fatal disease. Hog cholera is a highly contagious, infectious disease. It is characterized by high temperature (fever), loss of appetite, cough, diarrhoea, gradual loss of flesh, red or purple spots on the belly, and purulent discharge from the nose and eyes. This discharge often pastes from the side of the eye together and causes the hog to breathe with a snuffling sound. Later in the attack and just before death, the affected animal has muscular tremors and wobbling gait.

On post mortem examination, the spleen or milky is enlarged and dark in color, and is sometimes covered with red (bloody) spots, from the size of a pin head to a pea. The bowels are often inflamed and ulcers are found on the inner mucous coat of the intestines. This is considered one of the most positive symptoms, and is seen most often in cases where the animals have lived for a week or more after the attack of the disease. The lymph glands, or "kernels," as they are sometimes called, are inflamed, swollen and bloody. Very often red spots are seen on the lining of the chest (pleura) and the lining of the abdomen (peritoneum). The kidneys have small blood spots on them, making them look speckled like a turkey's egg. This also is considered one of the most positive symptoms. We find in some outbreaks some symptoms predominant, while in others other symptoms are predominant. As in many diseases, all cases are not typical, and this is especially true early in the outbreak of hog cholera. The first hogs to become sick and even those that die, do not show pronounced symptoms, and it is often very difficult to make a positive diagnosis.

From 25 to 35 per cent of a herd may contract the disease, and of those that become sick nearly all die. Young hogs are more susceptible and succumb more quickly. Very fat hogs, or those in poor, weak condition, do not withstand disease as well as those in ordinary flesh.

Hog cholera has been the subject of a great deal of investigation and experimentation. The United States Department of Agriculture has maintained an experiment station at Ames, Iowa, for years for the sole purpose of investigating this disease. As a result of their diligent and well directed efforts, a hog cholera serum has been developed. The reports of the use of hog cholera serum were so successful and encouraging that the Texas experiment station in December, 1910, decided to give the hog cholera serum a trial. Dr. H. H. Harrington, director, detailed one of the veterinarians on his staff to take charge of this work, and visit the experiment station at Ames. Afterward the trials given the serum by the Texas experiment station were so satisfactory that Colonel R. T. Miller, president of the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, asked the legislature for an appropriation of

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several thousand dollars to carry on this work. The college received \$1000 a year for two years, and is endeavoring to make the most of this appropriation.

Hog cholera serum is made from hogs that have undergone a certain treatment and are called "hyper-immunes." Hyperimmune hogs are immune hogs into the veins or under the skin of which has been injected a large quantity of virulent blood (blood from hogs that are sick with hog cholera, and, therefore, have millions of the germs of the disease in their blood). In a short time after undergoing such treatment, hyper-immune hogs are ready to be bled for serum.

Immune hogs are those that will not take the disease, just as some people will not take measles, or by having undergone certain treatment where in hog cholera serum plays an important part. Immunity—ability to withstand the disease—is produced by hog cholera serum in the following ways:

First—The use of hog cholera serum alone, which gives an immunity for a few weeks only.

Second—The use of hog cholera serum in a herd where the disease has been prevalent for several days. Under these conditions the serum gives a life-time immunity. This is the most effective and satisfactory use and application of the serum.

Third—The use of the serum and virulent blood, which also gives a life-time immunity.

Hog cholera serum is in liquid form, and is administered by injecting it under the skin with a hypodermic syringe. The dose of the serum is about two-thirds of one ounce for a 100-pound hog. Hogs larger or smaller than this are given a larger or smaller dose. The cost of the serum is about 25 cents a dose.

Hog cholera serum is only a preventive. The occasions for its use are when the disease appears in one's herd, or in his neighborhood, or when the animals are being shipped away from home for show or breeding purposes.

The serum can be procured by sending a money order or draft to "The Veterinary Department, A. & M. College, College Station, Texas," which is in charge of Dr. H. P. Marshall. The serum is not guaranteed by the college, but every precaution is taken to produce a reliable product.

The serum should be administered only by those who have had experience, or by a veterinarian. The veterinarians at the A. & M. College will visit an affected herd whenever circumstances will permit, provided the owner bears all traveling expenses.

Bleeding using serum for the prevention of hog cholera a great deal can be done in other ways, especially by careful quarantine and sanitation. The disease is very often carried by persons, such as hog buyers, veterinarians, and more often by the owner. Many times the latter will visit a herd of hogs having the disease and then high over, or feed, his own without taking any precautions, and in this way infect his herd.

Hog cholera is often carried in feed, by railroad cars,

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by drainage, and in other ways. Newly purchased hogs or hogs that have been to the fair or show, or that have been sent away to be bred, will bring the disease to a healthy herd. Such animals should be kept to themselves (quarantined) for two or three weeks. The disease would develop in this time if they had been exposed. Hogs that die of the disease should be buried deeply, or burned. Premises should be disinfected with some reliable preparation, such as white wash, containing 3 per cent crude carbolic acid, or a 3 per cent solution of some similar dip, or a 2 per cent solution of formalin solution of cresol.

THE JOY OF LIFE.

The greatest joy of life is the realization that you have done something, wrought with mind and hand and brought forth something, that will add to the comfort and prosperity of others.

Seeing that every man's work is born with him we cannot always choose the work we can do most successfully. The work born with us is that for which we have a taste and an aptness. Doing this faithfully and cheerfully we cannot fail of success.

Real success, as you well know, is not measured in dollars and cents, declares the Pittsburg Gazette Times, but in bringing the greatest good to the greatest number of our fellow creatures.

Were we all as rich as we think we would like to be who would grade the streets, dig ditches, mine coal and produce the food necessary to preserve life?

Would you do it, or would you allow your sons to do it? How then could you enjoy the comforts and pleasures that are now within your reach, and that of your children?

Those who do this work very often, if not generally, enjoy life more fully than those who make use of the products of their labor.

For the first time in the history of the National Feeders and Breeders' Show, Jersey cattle will be given recognition in the exhibition. It is expected that prize Jerseys from all parts of the country will be exhibited at this show in November.

This year's peach crop in San Angelo section promises to be the largest ever harvested there for several seasons past. Estimates place this year's production at more than thirty cars.

Irion county voted a good roads bond issue of \$20,000 last week. The proceeds will be used in constructing a highway from the Tom Green county line to the All-Southern transcontinental highway.

Waco's Cotton Palace will have a poultry building added to its other attractions. A three-quarter block of ground has been added to the park.

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